

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 DHA-02 ORM-02
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 DODE-00 SSO-00 HEW-04
NSC-05 NSCE-00 /049 W
-----010709 086555 /15

O R 281300Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9528

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

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AID FOR/OFDA FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, SREF, BC

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR ZIMBABWEAN REFUGEES IN BOTSWANA

REF: A. STATE 43637; B. GABORONE 476; C. 2 FAM 60-66.8

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH 2 FAM 60, I HEREBY DETERMINE THAT THE RECENT AND INCREASING INFLUX OF REFUGEES INTO BOTSWANA CONSTITUTES A MAN-MADE DISASTER OF MAGNITUDE AND SEVERITY SUFFICIENT TO QUALIFY FOR EMERGENCY DISASTER ASSISTANCE. THE GOB HAS URGENTLY REQUESTED SUCH ASSISTANCE FOR 500 REFUGEES; THE REQUEST AND THE NEED WERE CONFIRMED BY UN ASST. SEC GEN FARAH IN BRIEFING FEBRUARY 27 ON HIS MISSION'S FINDING GIVEN DIPLOMATIC CORPS. (FYI: FARAH DESCRIBED CONDITIONS AS "APPALLING" AND NEED FOR EMERGENCY TENT ACCOMMODATIONS AS "URGENT". HE SAID MORE THAN 1250 REFUGEES ARE IN FRANCISTOWN CAMP BUILT TO CARE FOR 250; GOB PLANS MOVE UP TO 500 OF THESE TO SELEBIPIKWE ASAP.

2. IT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT THIS DISTANCE TO ASCERTAIN

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THE TOTAL VALUE OF THE TENTS AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (PLUS AIR FREIGHT) REQUESTED BY UNMISSION, UNHCR AND GOK (REF B). TENTS MIGHT BE AVAILABLE IN AFRICA OR EUROPE WHICH WOULD SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCE THE COST OF AIR FREIGHT. ASSUME TOTAL COST F.O.B. SELEBIPIKWE WILL NOT EXCEED 25,000 DOLLARS. ASYG FARAH SAID GOB HAS BEGUN CLEARING GROUND FOR TENT SITES NEAR SELEBI-

PIKWE. UNHCR IS FINANCING SITE PREPARATION (SELEBI-PIKWE REPORTEDLY SELECTED BECAUSE OF ASPHALT AIRPORT RUNWAY, SECURITY AND OTHER CONSIDERATIONS).

3. PLEASE NOTE THAT, ACCORDING TO PRESENT PLANS, THIS ASSISTANCE COULD BE ADMINISTERED UNDER OVERALL DIRECTION OF UNHCR. IT WOULD NOT BE EARMARKED FOR OR LIMITED TO ZIMBABWEANS, ALTHOUGH AT THE PRESENT TIME THEY WOULD COMPRISE THE VAST MAJORITY OF REFUGEES BEING ASSISTED. THE GO WOULD PROPOSE TO MAKE THIS TEMPORARY HOUSING AVAILABLE TO ANY REFUGEES ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: TO ENABLE UNHCR/GOB TO BEGIN BUILDING TENT FOUNDATIONS, INFORMATION ON (A) TENT SIZES AND (B) WHETHER US CAN PROVIDE THEM IS STILL REQUIRED BY OPENING OF BUSINESS MARCH 2.

NORLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RELIEF, EMERGENCY PLANNING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Film Number: D770069-0806
Format: TEL
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977024/aaaaadcw.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 292c4bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 43637, 77 GABORONE 476
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